

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 11-13, and 15. These sheets replace the original sheets containing Figures 11-13, and 15.

In each of Figures 11, 12, and 15, a legend is appended indicating "Prior Art".

In Figure 13, the legend "LINE WIDTH" is amended to read "WIDTH of DIELECTRIC WAVEGUIDE", the legend "LINEAR" is amended to read "LINEAR DIELECTRIC WAVEGUIDE", and the legend "BEND" is amended to read "BENT DIELECTRIC WAVEGUIDE".

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 21 remains in this application. Claims 25-28 are withdrawn by the Examiner.

Claims 21 and 25-28 are amended to address antecedent basis issues and in consideration of U.S. practice and preferences, as further detailed below.

New claim 40 depends from claim 21 and is directed to Species I formerly elected by the Applicants, i.e., that of Figures 1 and 2. Claim 40 finds support in the specification and the drawing figures (e.g., page 12, line 20 to page 21, line 3; Figures 1 and 2) and does not introduce new matter.

The Official Action objected to the specification for grammatical errors and other informalities, stating that revision is required.

In reply, the specification has been carefully reviewed and a substitute specification, responsive to the Official Action, is provided as an Appendix to replace the current specification. The substitute specification is provided in both a clean form and a marked form, the latter submitted with markings showing all the changes relative to the immediate prior version of the specification of record. The substitute specification does not introduce new matter.

Further to the Official Action's objection to the specification, Figure 13 is amended to revise the legends of the graph.

Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully solicited.

The Official Action objected to the drawing figures, stating that Figures 11, 12, and 15 should have a legend designating them as Prior Art.

In reply, Figures 11, 12, and 15 have been amended to include a legend "Prior Art", responsive to the Official Action's objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Official Action rejected claim 21 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In reply, claim 21 has been amended to obviate the rejection for indefiniteness. In particular, claim 21 is amended to recite the invention in a manner more consistent with U.S. preferences, finding support in the specification and the drawing figures (e.g., page 5, lines 9-18; Figures 1-2) and not introducing new matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

There are no other objections or rejections pending with respect to claim 21. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 21 is believed to have been placed into

condition of allowance. New claim 40 is also believed to be patentable at least for depending from a patentable claim.

It is also respectfully submitted that claims 25-28, being dependent from a patentable claim, are patentable and should be rejoined. In particular, claim 25, as amended, finds support in the specification and the drawing figures (e.g., page 12, line 20 to page 21, line 3; Figures 1-2) and corresponds to the first embodiment of the invention, as described in the bottom paragraph of page 12 of the specification. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted rejoinder of claim 25, and claims depending therefrom, is appropriate.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that Applicants have fully responded to the September 25, 2008 Official Action and that the claims as presented are patentable. In view of this, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims, as presented, and their early passage to issue.

In order to expedite the prosecution of this case, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the attorney for Applicants at the number set forth below if the Examiner is of the opinion that further discussion of this case would be helpful.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following items:

- Replacement Sheets for Figures 11-13, and 15 of the drawings
- a Substitute Specification and a marked-up copy of the originally-filed specification